

Health News Release

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Clark County

In June 2013 the Dental Commission conditionally granted a dental assistant credential to **Mersadeze Sidney Rojas** (D160300836). In 2012 Rojas was convicted of minor in possession and third-degree assault.

In June 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **Nicholas Mathias Thomas Crapser** (CP60327803) and placed him on probation. In 2011 Crapser was conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential.

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Michael Lynn Whitmore** (NA00143910) with unprofessional conduct. Whitmore allegedly was found intoxicated and semi-responsive with slurred speech on a porch outside a home where she was supposed to be caring for two vulnerable adults. She allegedly admitted drinking wine at work and that she has a history of binge drinking.

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Grays Harbor County

In June 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Margaret Marie Cabell** (CO60112519) and placed her on probation. In 2003 Cabell was convicted of fourth-degree assault and harassment. In 2004 she was convicted of violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver, fourth-degree assault, and driving while license suspended or revoked. In 2006 she was convicted of second-degree unlawful possession of a firearm and violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — possession with intent to manufacture or deliver amphetamine or methamphetamine.

In June 2013 the Massage Practitioner and Nursing Assistant programs charged massage practitioner and certified nursing assistant **Coral L. Peters** (MA60072538, NC10062183) with unprofessional conduct. In 2012 Peters was charged with violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — possession of oxycodone and with third-degree theft after allegedly admitting taking narcotics intended for patients at a facility where she worked. She allegedly admitted stealing a pill bottle containing Vicodin from the jacket of a co-worker at a lodge where she worked in 2012, and in 2013 entered pretrial diversion after being charged with possession of a controlled substance — Vicodin, and third-degree theft.

Jefferson County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program denied a registered nursing assistant credential to **Jillian Ann Martin** (NA60245896), who was convicted in 2009 of unlawful solicitation to possess a controlled substance.

King County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with registered nursing assistant **Beth Ellen Tuthill** (NA00144266) that reinstated her credential and placed her on probation for at least one year. Tuthill's credential was revoked in 2004 after she didn't respond to a request for a written explanation following a third-degree theft conviction.

In June 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Tanya L. Mathews** (CO60329815) and placed her on probation. In 1998 Mathews was convicted of violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — unlawful possession of cocaine. In 2008 she was convicted of violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — conspiracy to deliver cocaine, and violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act — possession of cocaine.

Kitsap County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Matthew James Boston** (NA60113808, NC60110715) that reinstated his credentials. He must participate in a monitoring program. Boston didn't comply with a previous agreement.

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In June 2013 the Medical Commission ended terms and conditions on the certified physician assistant credential of **Jesse T. Fenger** (PA10005297).

Lewis County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Jayme Dyanne Ferguson** (NA60154585) with unprofessional conduct. Ferguson allegedly failed a drug test that was required as part of her employment at a long-term care facility.

Mason County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Kathleen LaPorta** (NA60330472) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 LaPorta was charged with obtaining a controlled substance by fraud. She allegedly attempted to get Vicodin by fraudulently calling in a prescription to a pharmacy, and allegedly admitted to doing so previously.

Okanogan County

In June 2013 the Radiologic Technologist Program charged radiologic technologist **Gary Wayne Owens** (RT60068503) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 Owens was convicted of third-degree child molestation.

Pierce County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Mary Anna VanWieringen** (NA00126440) with unprofessional conduct. The Department of Social and Health Services found VanWieringen mentally abused two vulnerable adults. VanWieringen isn't allowed to be employed in a position that gives her access to vulnerable adults.

In June 2013 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program charged agency affiliated counselor **Teresa Lorraine Holloway** (CG60300038) with unprofessional conduct. Holloway allegedly didn't comply with a stipulation involving her registered nursing credential.

Skagit County

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission conditionally granted a registered nursing credential to **Julia Anne Bryan** (RN60343632), who in 2009 was conditionally granted a health care assistant credential.

Snohomish County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Amanda Rose Kullman** (NC60360137), who was convicted of third-degree theft in 2008.

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Stevens County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Levi Maxson Letts** (NA60286328) with unprofessional conduct. In 2012 Letts applied to reactivate his credential that expired in 2000. He was convicted of one felony and nine gross misdemeanors from 2004 to 2009. In 2011 Letts received deferred prosecution on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Thurston County

In June 2013 the Massage Practitioner Program ended probation for massage practitioner **Sandi M. Powell** (MA00020802).

In June 2013 the Certified Counselor Program denied a certified counselor credential to **Cynthia Grace Johnson** (CL60143089), whose education didn't meet requirements.

Yakima County

In June 2013 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Regina J. Mercer** (LP60013043) with unprofessional conduct. Mercer allegedly admitted repeatedly diverting or taking patients' drugs for her own use.

Out of State

Florida: In June 2013 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Vivian Deatrich Bethea** (LP00051245) that reinstated her credential and placed her on probation for one year. Bethea's credential was suspended in 2011 for substandard patient care and recordkeeping.

New Mexico: In June 2013 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Vicki Dawne Ward** (RN60267891, AP60267892) with unprofessional conduct. Ward allegedly didn't ask for a change in her registered location when she moved from Massachusetts to Washington, as required by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration. She went to work for a Washington medical staffing service. Ward allegedly admitted writing prescriptions, including one for herself, using an out-of-state DEA registration. She voluntarily surrendered her controlled substance privileges.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.